(b) The activities of the organization are constantly being reviewed to revitalise them with the changing times.

Cases of sexual harassment and atrocities on women

1492. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of cases of sexual harassment in work places and atrocities on women are on rise in recent years;

(b) how many such cases have been reported to Government during the last five years; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to stop such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) National Commission for Women has informed that the complaints of sexual harassment at workplace received by the Commission from 2001 to 2005 (till date) has shown a steady increase over the years except during 2004. As per the statistical data on crimes against women compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, the number of cases of atrocities on women has not increased during the years 2000 to 2004.

(b) As per the information furnished by the National Commission for Women, it had received a total of 287 complaints of sexual harassment during the five years from 2001 to 2005 (till date). As per the statistical data on crimes against women compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs 7,11,778 cases of atrocities on women have been reported from various States during 2000 to 2004 for which data is available.

(c) The Government has initiated action in the following areas to prevent sexual harassment at workplace as well as other crimes being committed against women:—

- The Government has been propagating the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court in its judgement dated 13.8.1997 in the Vishaka case for their strict observation in all workplaces, including the direction for setting up of complaints committees to deal with complaints of sexual harassment.

- The Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 have been amended to make sexual harassment a prohibited conduct in accordance with the Supreme Court's guidelines.
- Amendments have also been made in the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Rules in pursuance of the guidelines.
- Setting up of helplines for women in distress.
- Support services to victims of violence through schemes such as Short Stay Homes and Swadhar under which shelter, maintenance, counselling, capacity building, occupational training, medical aid and other services are provided.
- Grant-in-aid schemes providing assistance for rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked victims as well as prevention through special schemes in source areas of trafficking.
- Redressal of grievances through interventions of National and State Commissions for Women.
- Organizing Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Camps.
- Implementation of schemes for (i) awareness generation and advocacy and (ii) economic empowerment of women through the programmes of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Swashakti Project, Swayamsidha Project, Swawlamban Programme and Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP).
- Periodic review of laws with a view to remove provisions which may be discriminatory to women and to enhance punishments for crime against women as well as enactment of new laws.
- Sensitization of judiciary and police and civil administration on gender issues.
- Follow up of reports of cases of atrocities against women received from various sources, including NCW, with concerned authorities in the Central and the State Governments.

'Public order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime are primarily the responsibility of the

State Government. However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and to take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women and other vulnerable sections of society. The measures suggested include:—

- Sensitizing of police officials charged with the responsibility of protecting the women;
- Vigorously enfore the existing legislation relating to dowry violence;
- Set up women police cells in police stations and exclusive women police stations;
- Provide institutional support to the victims of violence;
- Provide counselling to victims of rape;
- Take measures to eliminate trafficking in women. States have also been advised to constitute State Advisory Committees to advise on trafficking matters;
- Ensure wider recruitment of women police officers;
- Train police personnel in special laws dealing with atrocities against women;
- Setting up of Fast Track Courts;
- Setting up of Family Courts; and
- Appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers and notification of Rules under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 by the State Governments.

Military training to youths at college level

†1493. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestion for providing military training to youths at college level;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.